

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 CA-01 /069 W
-----026923 151849Z /47

O P 151800Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7259
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 6485

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0433

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU
SUBJECT: CYPRUS MISSING PERSONS

REF: NICOSIA 0427

1. GORGE APPOINTMENT WITH DENKTASH WAS FIXED FOR NOON FEB. 15.
GORGE AND I COORDINATED BEFORE THE MEETING. I BRIEFED HIM
FULLY ON MY CONVERSATION WITH DENKTASH FEB. 14. WE AGREED THAT
SINCE WALDHEIM WAS PRETTY MUCH AU COURANT ON MISSING PERSONS
NEGOTIATION, HAD STUDIED REV 4 BEFORE THE NICOSIA VISIT, AND HAD
AUTHORIZED GORGE TO HELP AS APPROPRIATE, GORGE HAD SUFFICIENT
AUTHORITY TO USE HIS MEETING WITH DENKTASH TO PRESENT A COPY OF
REV 5 WITH THE HEADING "WORKING PAPER 3, REVIRION 5" OMITTED,
TITLED ONLY ZTERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A MIXED COMMITTEE ON MISSING
PERSONS", AND RE-DATED FEBRUARY 14. WE FURTHER AGREED THAT IF
DENKTASH OPENED THE SUBJECT BY ASKING FOR WALDHEIM'S PLANS ON THIS
MATTER AND WHEN HE COULD EXPECT A REPLY TO HIS LETTEH, GORGE
WOULD REPLY ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: SYG IS HOPEFUL ON EARLY
AGREEMENT ON MISSING PERSONS COMMITTEE. HE IS QUITE WILLING TO
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BE OF ASSISTANCE. HE HAS BEEN KEPT INFORMED ON THE AMERICAN
NEGOTIATION AND WELCOMES THE FACT THAT VERY SUBSTANTIAL, IF NOT
YET ABSOLUTE, AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED. HE BELIEVES PRESENT
FORMULATION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE IS A SOUND BASIS FOR AGREEMENT
AND WOULD BE PLEASED IF PARTIES COULD SIGNIFY TO HIM AND ICRC
THEIR AGREEMENT.

2. GORGE/DENKTASH MEETING TOOK PLACE AND GORGE BRIEFED ME LATER IN THE DAY. IN THE EVENT, GORGE WAS ABLE TO PUT MOST OF THE COMMENTS HE HAD INTENDED AND DENKTASH ACCEPTED THE "NEW" DOCUMENT. DENKTASH HAD SEVERAL COMMENTS ALONG THE LINES OF HIS REMARKS TO ME MADE THE PREVIOUS DAY. HE INSISTED THAT NOW THE ICRC POSITION IS KNOWN TO ALL, THE QUESTION OF DECISION-MAKING IS OBSOLETE AND THE GREEK CYPRIOTS MUST STOP TALKING ABOUT MAJORITY DECISION. INTENSE AMERICAN EFFORTS HAD BEEN HELPFUL IN CLEARING UN MANY POINTS. PURSUANT TO THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION, WALDHEIM SHOULD THEREFORE CALL THE COMMITTEE INTO BEING. ONCE FORMED, THE COMMITTEE ITSELF COULD THRASH OUT REMAINING POINTS OF DIFFERENCE. IN THIS THRASHING OUT, HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT TERMS OF REFERENCE CANNOT GO BEYOND SO-CALLED REVISION 3. REVISION 3 PROVIDES REALISTIC FRAMEWORK. ITS EXACT LANGUAGE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE USED, BUT TERMS OF REFERENCE MUST BE WITHIN ITS SCOPE.

3. GORGE COMMENTED TO ME THAT THROUGHOUT THE CONVERSATION DENKTASH ACTED AS IF THE U.S. EFFORT WERE NOW AT AN END AND HE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS WOULD COME FROM WALDHEIM, FIRST OF ALL A REPLY TO HIS LETTER.

4. GORGE SAID HE HAD SEEN TURKISH AMBASSADOR ONHON JUST BEFORE HIS MEETING WITH DENKTASH. ONHON, TOO, HAD ACTED AS IF THE U.S. INITIATIVE WERE NOW A THING OF THE PAST. REFLECTING ANKARA'S POSITION, HE SAID THAT WHILE HE HAD ADMIRERED AMERICAN PERSISTENCE AND DUTIFULLY REPORTED DEVELOPMENTS, HE HAD NEVER BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC
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ON THE MISSING PERSONS ISSUE WHICH HAD NOW FADED INTO THE BACKGROUND IN THE FACE OF FAR MORE IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS.

5. GORGE SAID HE ASSUMED WALDHEIM/URQUHART WOULD NOW CONSULT WITH THE USG AND HE WOULD RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS AS A RESULT. OBVIOUSLY, HE NOTED, ANKARA IS THE OBSTACLE. PERHAPS WALDHEIM WOULD WORK WITH AMBASSADOR TURKMAN. ALTHOUGH THE UN ROLE HAD NOW BECOME THE PRIMARY ONE, U.S. HAD MORE INFLUENCE AND WOULD NECESSARILY REMAIN INVOLVED. IN THIS CONNECTION I NOTED THAT DENKTASH OWED ME A REPLY BASED ON HIS PROMISE TO REOPEN THIS QUESTION WITH GOT AND I EXPECTED, THEREFORE, TO BE MEETING HIM AGAIN SHORTLY.

6. COMMENT: U.S. CONSULTATION WITH WALDHEIM/URGUHART SEEMS THE OBVIOUS NEXT STEP. EQUALLY OBVIOUS IS THE TURKISH TACTIC OF TRYING TO DISMISS THE U.S. AND SHIFT OFF TO WALDHEIM IN THE CONFIDENCE THAT HE WILL BE LESS INTERESTED THAT U.S., LESS INFLUENTIAL, AND FAR EASIER TO PARRY. IF DEPARTMENT BELIEVES WE SHOULD CONTINUE THE EFFORT ON A MISSING PERSONS COMMITTEE, WE SHOULD FIND AN APPROPRIATE WAY OF LETTING GOT KNOW THAT WE DO NOT BUY THIS TACTIC, WE INTEND TO GO ON, AND WILL BE AT WALDHEIM'S ELBOW. ALTERNATIVELY, IF IT IS JUDGED THAT NO AMOUNT OF EFFORT

WILL MOVE ECEVIT, WHO IS CALLING DENKTASH'S TUNE, LETTING THE
BURDEN SHIFT TO WALDHEIM PURSUANT TO THIRD COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION IS AS GRACEFUL A WAY AS ANY OF SUSPENDING OUR
INITIATIVE.
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